Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

ACDA-07 TRSE-00 SAJ-01 MC-02 OMB-01 EB-07 /077 W ----- 040215

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FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8915

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

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AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION NATO

USDEL MBFR VIENNA

USNMR SHAPE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MARR, MASS, NATO, NL, US

SUBJ: GON MAY POSTPONE NEPTUNE REPLACEMENT

1. DUTCH NEWSPAPER "VOLKSKRANT" REPORTS SEPT 7 THAT BUDGET-ARY STRINGENCIES WILL REQUIRE GON TO POSTPONE REPLACEMENT OF NEPTUNE MARITIME PATROL AIRCRAFT UNTIL 1980. NEPTUNE REPLACEMENT WAS PUT OFF LAST YEAR, BUT GON CAME UP WITH MONEY TO KEEP THEM FLYING. QUESTION WHETHER NEPTUNES WILL CONTINUE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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IN SERVICE UNTIL 1980 IS NOT ADDRESSED IN "VOLKSKRANT" ARTICLE.

- 2. NEWSPAPER ALSO REPORTS THAT THE BUDGETARY PRESSURES HAVE AGAIN CONVINCED MOD THAT NATO MUST MOVE IN DIRECTION OF SHARING DEFENSIVE TASKS. "TASK DISTRIBUTION," ALONG WITH STANDARDIZATION, HAS BEEN A CONTINUING GOAL OF DUTCH DEFENSE MINISTER VREDELING. "VOLKSKRANT" SAYS THAT MOD BELIEVES IT IMPERATIVE THAT DISCUSSIONS ON SUBJECT BE OPENED SITH NATO PARTNERS IMMEDIATELY.
- 3. FOREIGN MINISTRY SOURCE, WITHOUT GOING INTO DETAILS, TOLD US THAT NEWSPAPER ACCOUNT SEEMS TO BE BASED ON LEAK. BUDGET IS TO BE RELEASED SEPT 21 WHEN QUEEN OPENS PARLIAMENT. GOULD

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Message Attributes

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Subject: GON MAY POSTPONE NEPTUNE REPLACEMENT TAGS: MARR, MASS, NL, US, NATO To: STATE

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